



# SEVERE WINTER WEATHER

Severe Winter Weather refers to a weather event that produces forms of precipitation caused by cold temperatures, such as snow, sleet, ice, and freezing rain, while ground temperatures are cold enough to cause precipitation to stick/freeze. These hazards may be enhanced with the presence of windy conditions, which can lead to blizzard, whiteout conditions and drifting of snow. Additionally, these conditions have the potential to cause transportation hazard events.



## HAS IT HAPPENED LOCALLY?

The National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) Database reports an estimated total of 114 Severe Winter Weather events in Howard County that occurred during the review period of 1950-2019.

## WHAT IS THE ONGOING RISK?

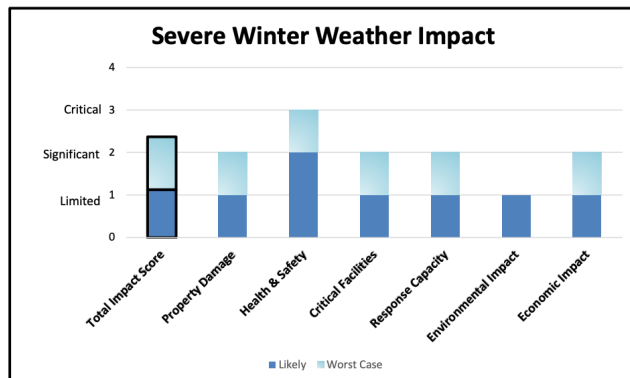
There is an expected 11-30+% Chance of Annual Occurrence of a Severe Winter Weather in Howard County. In the most likely Severe Winter Weather scenario, the Total Impact is considered Limited. In the worst-case scenario, the Total Impact is considered Significant-Critical.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- The average annual snowfall for Howard County ranges from 20-27 inches.
- Howard County experience an average of 5.5 Severe Winter Weather events per year.
- Howard County has 1,025 miles of roadway that must be plowed during winter storms.
- According to the National Weather Service, the Blizzard of January 2016 resulted in the highest reported snowfall in Howard County (28.8 inches) for any two-day event in recorded history.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- [Howard County Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment](#)
- [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#)
- [Ready.gov](#)



Severe Winter Weather Risk Profile				
Likelihood	Risk Assessment Category	Likely Hazard Scenario	Worst-Case Hazard Scenario	Weight
Likelihood	Likelihood	3.75 Likely-Very Likely		50%
	Impact	1.1 Limited	2.3 Significant-Critical	40%
Consequence	Warning Time	2 Long	1 Very Long	5%
	Duration	1 Short	2 Moderate	5%
TOTAL RISK SCORE		2.4	2.9	

